

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 197526

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DRAFTED BY: NEA/ARN:TJCAROLAN:PDW

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S/S-O:MTANNER

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 197526

EXDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT JIDDA 5482 ACTION SECSTATE 09 AUG 1976

QUOTE S E C R E T JIDDA 5482

EXDIS

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, JO, SA, US

SUBJECT: JORDAN AIR DEFENSE

REF: (A) STATE 196840; (B) JIDDA 5438

1. I WAS SUMMONED TODAY AT 1300 TO MEET WITH FOREIGN
MINISTER PRINCE SAUD WHO IMMEDIATELY BEGAN TO LAMENT THE
LACK OF PROGRESS WE HAD BEEN ABLE TO MAKE IN SOLVING THE
QUESTION OF FINANCING OF THE JORDAN AIR DEFENSE PACKAGE.
SINCE HAD RAISED THE SUBJECT AND SINCE I HAD BEEN
AUTHORIZED TO DO SO, I BROACHED WITH HIM THE METHOD OF
PAYMENT PROPOSED REFTEL A WHICH WOULD REGARD ALL SAUDI
PAYMENTS FOR ALL FMS CASES AS A SINGLE ENTITY, INCLUDING
SECRET

SECRET

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THE JORDANIAN HAWK PURCHASE. I GAVE PRINCE SAUD A PAPER

ON THE SUBJECT THAT I HAD BROUGHT WITH ME TO THE MEETING
IN THE EVENT IT SEEMED APPROPRIATE TO MAKE THE PROPOSAL WITH-
OUT AWAITING THE COMMENTS ON ALTERNATIVE FINANCING SUGGESTIONS
REQUESTED REFTEL B.

2. PRINCE SAUD EXPRESSED GREAT SATISFACTION AT OUR PROPOSAL,
AND SAID THAT AS FAR AS HE WAS CONCERNED THIS SHOULD SOLVE
THE PROBLEM AND ENABLE US TO CONCLUDE THE MATTER. HE SAID,
HOWEVER, THAT HE WOULD HAVE TO GET THE VIEWS OF OTHERS
CONCERNED (NO DOUBT MINDEF PRINCE SULTAN). HE SAID THAT HE
WOULD BE BACK TO ME TOMORROW WITH THE OFFICIAL SAG
RESPONSE.

3. COMMENT: SAUD'S REACTION WAS EXTREMELY POSITIVE. I HOPE
THAT PRINCE SULTAN WILL SHARE HIS ENTHUSIASM. DESPITE HIS
INTENTIONS, IT MIGHT NOT BE POSSIBLE FOR PRINCE SAUD TO GIVE
ME AN OFFICIAL RESPONSE BY TOMMORROW. SULTAN IS IN ABHA
PREPARING FOR THE KING'S VISIT TO THAT REGION AND IT MIGHT
THEREFORE TAKE MORE TIME THAN THAT TO GET HIS VIEWS.
PORTER UNQUOTE ROBINSON

SECRET

NNN

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